

The World's Best Has Passed Away

Dick Davis Is Dead

Was a Gentleman Though an Author

BY JACK LAIT

One of the boys woke me in my bed to tell me over the telephone that an A. P. bulletin had just brought some bad news. When he said what the news was I sat right up straight. I even rocked a bit, I guess. Davis was dead.

The readers may know Richard Harding Davis well. But the writers know him better. To have known his paragraphs, his characters, his descriptions, his humor, his philosophy and his touch-and-go flashes was a great adventure. But to have known the man was more.

Davis was far beyond and above me in the business of putting words together. And he was the sort of man who yielded none of his superiority, though he had a fine taste in things and knew no bombast or self-assertion. His quiet, well-lined manner was so sure, so poised. He had been everything at least twice. His memory was card-indexed and system-filled. He was the intimate of every man of prominence in the world, from the czar of Russia to Kid Broad.

He used to like to hear me talk. He and Charles Dana Gibson paid many a luncheon check to listen to my blather. Their genius never shamed me. I talked right out. They would exchange looks as though to say, "Listen to the impudent kid!" But they never laughed. I can never remember seeing Davis laugh, and all the world will tell you he had a sure-shot sense of humor.

He was too reserved to laugh. Maybe he laughed when he was alone. But if another were looking, Davis couldn't admit that he had been shocked into a display. He had loads of dignity. Even when at his greatest ease he was a bit lordly—a Van Ruler, most always.

Davis was no snob. But neither did he feel that he had to rub against all his fellowmen. He liked his forbidding club, his aristocratic hotel and the immaculate everything. Not that he wouldn't rough it in a war camp and walk over. He would and he did. Probably no man went through more self-chosen physical hardships than Davis. But in town he dressed in quiet elegance, adorned perspiration and was, oh, such a gentleman.

At the Roosevelt convention in 1912, we were going to do with sandwiches and had coffee sent in from a neighboring luncheon. We were all but Davis. He had arranged with Mrs. Davis that she send him a stack from the kitchen. It came a quart of chocolate in a thermos bottle and a cold ham, ported. Now, wasn't that just like Davis? We mailed the lunch before it got to him and we drink the good wine and ate the bird. Now, wasn't that just like a lot of rough reporters?

He came of a great family of writers. His mother, Rebecca Harding Davis, was famous as a fiction author and article contributor. His brothers are well-known newspaper and magazine men.

The flower of this literary garden was born in Philadelphia in 1864. He was educated at Lehigh and Johns Hopkins. He broke in for the Philadelphia Press and went to the New York Sun.

It wasn't long before he was recognized. He put through a few short pieces that "hooked" and then he began "The Van Ruler" review and wrote himself into heaven. He was in on every war, corruption and big world event of his time, a platform for important news, a platform for a new viewpoint always, a writer of supreme fiction, magnificent skill, dramatic punches and humorous wallops.

In 1889 he published "Soldiers of Fortune."

SYRUP OF FIGS

FOR CROSS, SICK, FEVERISH CHILD

If little stomach is sour, liver torpid or bowels clogged.

Mothers can rest easy after giving "California Syrup of Figs," because in a few hours all the clogged-up waste, sour bile and fermenting food gently moves out of the bowels, and you have a well, playful child again. Children simply will not take the time from play to empty their bowels, and they become tightly packed, liver gets sluggish and stomach disordered.

When cross, feverish, restless, see if tongue is coated, then give this delicious "fruit laxative." Children love it, and it can not cause injury. No difference what age your little one—if full of cold, or a sore throat, diarrhoea, stomach-ache, bad breath, remember, a gentle "inside cleansing" should always be the first treatment given. Full directions for babies, children of all ages and grown-ups are printed on each bottle.

Beware of counterfeit fig syrups. Ask your druggist for a 50-cent bottle of "California Syrup of Figs," then look carefully and see that it is made by the "California Fig Syrup Company." We make no smaller size. Hand back with contempt any other fig syrup—Adv.

TOMORROW
LOU TELLEGEN
and
THEODORE ROBERTS
in
"The Unknown"
A Paramount Feature
Par Excellence.
—Today—
CLEO MADONIN
in
"Her Bitter Cup"
A Red Feather.
5c-STRAND-5c

time," perhaps his best seller. Then came "Hudson's Bay," which made a good story and a bad plot, and was followed by many travel series, books of newspaper stories, war stories and society stories. He kept banging away in the best magazines, and when his popularity threatened a wane, a red always came along to show again and decisively that no American writer could describe things quite as well as Davis.

His last published book, "Somewhere in France," was a masterpiece and promised for Davis a new life and a broader vogue. He had a story this month in the Metropolitan Magazine—a boy scout fiction that was delicious. He was mellowing. He had always been a laureate of youth. Now he was taking in new phases of young America. And then his heart failed—that stout heart that had beat only a little faster when the bullets spat about him, when he was a prisoner in a savage camp of enemies, when he saw a king mount a throne, when he heard the whole world proclaim him great—that heart went back on him in the quietude of the night, in the serenity of his own home in the country, and it went out.

His widow was Beale McGee, who immortalized the Venus Yarn girl at the Whittier theatre where he met her. They were married shortly after the first Mrs. Davis, daughter of John M. Clark, had procured a divorce on uncontroverted allegations of desertion.

He left a young daughter, Hope, whom he named for Hope Latham, his favorite heroine of his favorite story.

Good-by, Richard Harding Davis. Good-by, Dick.

PASSOVER FEAST

TO BEGIN TODAY

Jewish Celebration Opens at Sundown; Services Planned Here.

The Jewish feast of Passover falls on the fifteenth day of Nisan corresponding this year with Tuesday, April 18. The celebration begins this evening with sundown.

In Oklahoma City Rabbi Blatt will conduct special services this evening at 6:15 o'clock at the Temple B'nai Israel, and other services at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, Tuesday afternoon at 5 o'clock there will be a children's Seder service. These will constitute the public Passover observances here.

The manner of the Passover's observance was determined largely by the Biblical ordinance concerning this feast. It is to be observed for a period of seven days. Those who cherish customs that originated after Bible times will keep the feast eight days.

The ceremonies are such as are calculated to bring home the historical event which the feast commemorates, namely, the new born freedom vouchsafed to Israel after the long period of oppression endured under Egyptian tyranny.

Bread of Affliction.
The eating of unleavened bread is enjoined a number of times in the Biblical regulations touching the observance of the Passover feast. Unleavened bread is characterized as the "bread of affliction," and is also referred to in the Bible as the bread that was unleavened because of the enforced hasty departure from Egypt.

In post-Biblical times the earnest desire to keep the injunctions most scrupulously led the teachers of Israel to enact laws, such as the use of special dishes that had been guarded from contact with leaven and reserved only for the Passover season.

Gather About Board.
A charming and effective feature in the celebration of the feast is the special Seder service around the festive family board on the first evening of the feast, to which the orthodox add a second evening. At this family service a special ritual known as the "Haggadah" is read. This ritual contains the story of the redemption from servitude, certain regulations laid down by the rabbis of old and certain psalms. This is followed by the festive meal after which grace, the reading of additional psalms, the recitation of prayers and the singing of time-honored hymns. To this home service stranger and homeless are cordially invited.

The Past Revived.
On the table in front of him who presides over the meal are placed objects reminiscent of the ancient service and service—such as bitter herbs, reminder of the bitter lot of those who fared in Egypt; a roasted bone, called to mind the ancient paschal lamb; a roasted egg, memorial of the free will offering that was brought in addition to the paschal lamb; parsley and the bowl of salt water, symbolizing the hyssop and its use in the first Passover observed in Egypt; and a confection of nuts and apples to represent the clay which Israel worked into bricks.

Pastoral Characteristic.
The Passover, falling at the beginning of spring, had originally a pastoral and agricultural character, which in time was overshadowed by the historical event associated later with the feast. Freedom and its obligation is the keynote of the celebration.

The reform synagogues hold special services only on the first and seventh days, while the orthodox observe also the second day and an additional eighth day.

STUBBORN BATTLE BEYOND ERZERUM

Turks Fought for Six Days to Stop Russian Advance in Far East.

PETROGRAD, April 17.—(Via London.) The supreme effort of the Turkish forces to oppose the further westward progress of the Russian central armies operating beyond Erzerum recently culminated in a stubborn six-day battle, the importance of which is scarcely suggested by the brief mention in the official communications. The Turks not only made determined stand along the whole front from the Black Sea coast to Bile, but organized an offensive campaign, the

evident intention of which was to recapture Erzerum.

The first step in carrying out the Turkish plan was by sudden pressure of the Russian right flank, to cause the removal of Russian troops from the center to the Black Sea coast. Relying upon the consequent weakening of the Russian center, the Turks then hurled their main forces west of Erzerum hoping to break through and compelling the coast group of the Russian forces to retreat for fear of being surrounded and cut off from their communications.

But the Russian forces were able successfully to meet the series of Turkish assaults without giving way, and after six days of the most severe fighting since the fall of Erzerum, the Turks fell back and the Russians, after taking prisoners a considerable number of Turkish troops, resumed the advance.

The warfare along the whole northern front continues with great intensity and military circles here find indications in the re-grouping of the German forces and preparations now on course behind the

GRIM RELICS OF BATTLE PACKED IN PIGEONHOLES

LONDON, April 17.—Packed away in the pigeonholes of the record office of the Territorial regiments in London buildings are thousands of little brown parcels and canvas bags which have a pathetic interest for the relatives of soldiers who have died in action. There are letters, too, many hundreds of them—the last line, perhaps, to parents, relatives or friends—written just before the battle. Grim relics of the fight, the canvas bags contain all that the soldier left in the way of effects. A wrist watch, a shaving brush, a pipe or a photograph—these are but a few of the mementoes.

Frogs Created By Scientists Live for Year

WASHINGTON, April 17.—The National Academy of Sciences met here Monday for a three-day session.

Dr. Jacques Loeb of the Rockefeller Institute of New York announced that recent experiments conducted by him in the artificial creation of frogs had confirmed the belief that only males can be so produced. He declared he had managed to keep a number of such frogs alive for a year.

Dr. William H. Welch, Baltimore, president of the academy, in presenting his annual report at the opening session made an announcement of sword of medals to the following:

Gifford Pinchot, former governor of

forester, "for distinguished service in organizing and directing the movement for the systematic conservation of the natural resources of the United States." Cleveland Abbe, "for distinguished public service in establishing and organizing the United States weather service." Professor A. C. Lawson, of the University of California, "for skill and ability in supervising the preparation of tables of the Watson asteroids involving original methods and leading to results of much value to celestial mechanics," also was announced.

GERMAN FINANCIER SEES BRIGHT FUTURE

BUDPEST, April 17.—(Via Berlin.) The Aviator today publishes an interview with the Berlin correspondent with Dr. Karl Helfferich, in which the secretary of the treasury declares that the country at war will be able to loan any amount or money country anything for two years after the

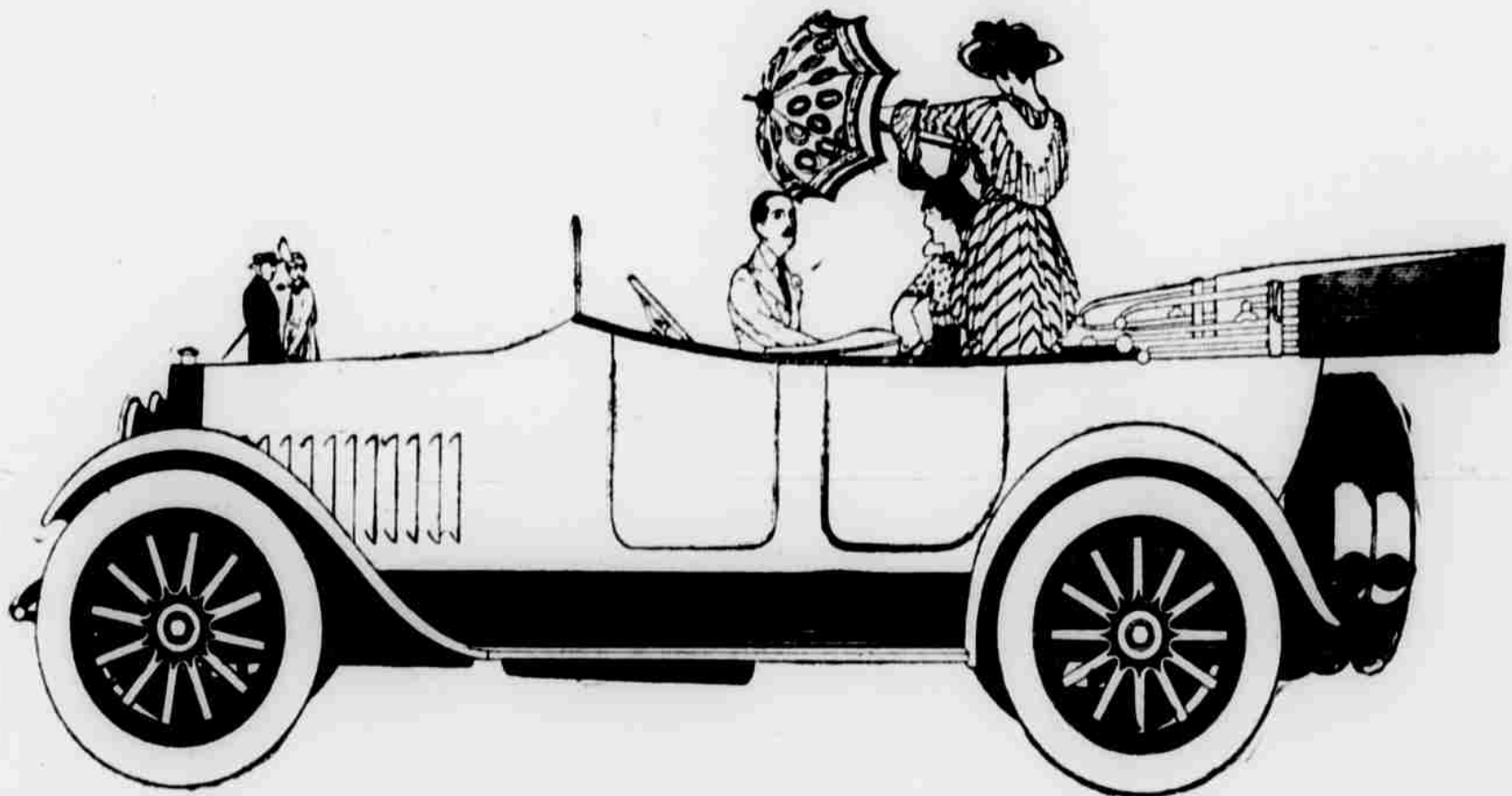
conclusion of hostilities yet he prophesies "economically a beautiful future" for the central empire.

The fourth German loan, said Dr. Helfferich, unquestionably assures the financing of the war until autumn, and a "respectable result." The pending Austro-Hungarian loan should remove all possibilities of financial difficulties.

LAWYER TALKS ABOUT INTERNATIONAL CRISIS

J. F. Rutherford of New York City, a lawyer, delivered an address Sunday afternoon at the Auditorium before a very large audience. His subject was the great war and the international crisis which he said the world was just beginning to face. He blamed the whole conflict upon human selfishness and declared the war was promoted by religious, political and capital which had various schemes in view.

Price now \$1090. Three years ago this car would have cost you \$2000.



She's active, lacks "nerves," and very modern—the 3400 r. p. m. Chalmers

She's active, full of life, lacks "nerves," and delivers a terrific wallop with only the slightest effort.

I mean by that a power-wallop. Because she turns up 3400 revolutions per minute. Her crank shaft speed surpasses that of any other American car.

Though there are three built in the U. S. A. that get a bit beyond 3100 r. p. m.

It's like an electric fan, which turns up 4000 r. p. m., or a turbine which does around 4300.

Of course, the Chalmers engine doesn't hit 3400 all the time. 3400 is the maximum. When the car is running 5 miles an hour she turns up 250 r. p. m.

At 10 miles an hour she does 500 r. p. m. At 15 she does 750. At 20, 1000. At 30, 1500.

So you see the engine isn't hitting the highest speed at the slower car speeds—those speeds you drive 90 per cent of the time.

In a way it's like horse-power. You say the horse-power of your car is 40. You mean by that the maximum is 40.

Yet at 10 miles an hour you are using probably less than 10 h. p. While at 20 miles an hour you are using about 17 or 18 h. p. And so on.

3400 r. p. m. is just another way of stating horsepower. It's the modern way. Because it shows power through supreme engine speed and not through large bore and stroke, which means a brute of an engine, and hence a vehicle of great weight.

The day of such a car has gone by. You and I want a light, spunky beast that responds to the slightest touch of the accelerator, that pulverizes hills, that drives straight as a sunbeam, that has the lure in her lines, and obeys.

That's the 3400 r. p. m. Chalmers. I've never had any person buy one and tell me she wasn't there. For she is—100 per cent.

Run in and I will show you a car that has doubled my business.

Ask me about our service inspection coupons. They are negotiable with all Chalmers dealers everywhere. This system is a most important consideration in buying your car.

Five-Passenger Touring Car, \$1090 Detroit
Three-Passenger Cabriolet, \$1440 Detroit
Two-Passenger Roadster, \$1070 Detroit

Colors: Touring Car and Roadster, Orford maroon with hood to match, or Meteor blue with black hood. Cabriolet, Orford maroon or Valentine green with hoods to match or Meteor blue with black hood.

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